(c) whether Government proposes to grant adequate compensation to all such Power of Attorney holders; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY): (a) Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD) has informed that land of 12 villages was notified for acquisition and award has been announced in all the 12 villages. Notification under Section 4 of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 was issued on 17.6.2005 in respect of two villages *viz.* Bakkarwala and Mundka and, on 7.4.2006 in respect of remaining ten villages. Notification under Section 6 of the Act was issued on 31.5.2006 in respect of Bakkarwala and Mundka, and on 4.4.2007 in respect of other ten villages. Compensation has been disbursed to persons in respect of two villages *viz.* Bakkarwala and Mundka where the possession of the awarded land has been taken over and for the remaining ten villages the possession is yet to be taken over. Compensation has been disbursed partially to 219 persons out of 251 persons in case of village Bakkarwala and to 142 persons out of 147 persons in case of village Mundka. In the remaining cases, compensation has not been paid.

(b) to (d) GNCTD has further informed that at the joint survey conducted for acquisition of the road, plotting has been noticed in eight villages and that compensation for the acquired land is paid to the recorded owner/title holder of the land as per provisions of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894. In case of any dispute, the Land Acquisition Collector may refer such disputes to the decision of the Court and shall deposit the amount of compensation in the Court, as per the provisions of the Act.

Affordable houses for common man

†*290. SHRI BHAGAT SINGH KOSHYARI:
SHRI PRABHAT JHA:

Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the action plans of Government for providing affordable houses to the common man;

(b) the extent to which these action plans have been successful in achieving the target;

(c) whether the prevailing home loan interest rate is right enough to provide affordable houses to the common man; and

(d) if not, the further steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) The Union Government formulated the National Urban Housing and Habitat Policy,

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

2007 with the aim of providing 'Affordable Housing for All' with particular emphasis in meeting the housing needs of the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) and Low Income Group (LIG).

This policy seeks to promote sustainable development of the urban habitat with a view to ensuring equitable supply of land, shelter and services at affordable prices to all sections of society.

In 2005, Government launched the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM), to make provision, *inter-alia*, of housing and basic services for the urban poor by a holistic and integrated development of slums in 65 specified cities under the Sub Mission Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) and in other cities and towns under the Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP). A total of 461 projects under Basic Services to the Urban Poor (BSUP) and 839 projects under Integrated Housing and Slum Development Programme (IHSDP) have been approved all over the country so far envisaging construction/ upgradation of 9,93,523 and 4,61,887 dwelling units respectively.

In December, 2008, Government started a new scheme Interest Subsidy Scheme for Housing for the Urban Poor (ISHUP) for providing interest subsidy to make housing loans affordable and within the repayment capacity of Economically Weaker Sections (EWS)/Low Income Group (LIG). The scheme makes available loans upto Rs. I lakh through Commercial Banks/Housing Finance Companies for the purposes of construction/acquisition of houses with an interest subsidy of 5%.

With a view to encourage allotment of land for EWS housing, another Scheme for 'Affordable Housing in Partnership', was started under which Central Government assistance is available for infrastructure connectivities for housing projects which provide houses upto 80 Sq.mt. carpet area of which at least 25% are for EWS/LIG.

In June, 2009, Government announced the intention to comprehensively address the issue of slums, and to provide a Rajiv Awas Yojana (RAY) for housing in urban areas along the lines of the Indira Awas Yojana, wherever states are willing to assign property rights to people living in slum areas.

(c) and (d) The Public Sector Banks (PSBs), including the State Bank of India (SBI), have reduced their Benchmark Prime Lending Rates (BPLRs) since October, 2008 and correspondingly the interest rates on all existing loans including Home Loans have come down. Interest rate charged on new loans have also been reduced compared with earlier prevailing rates.

In addition, keeping in mind the interests of the common man, an incentive package was announced for the housing sector on 16.12.2008 by the Indian Banks Association (IBA) under which the public sector banks are providing new housing loans upto Rs. 5 lakhs at a rate of interest which is not to exceed 8.5% per annum for the first five years. For housing loans from Rs. 5 lakhs to Rs. 20 lakhs, the rate of interest is not to exceed 9.25% per annum for the first

five years. As a further incentive, there are no processing charges, no pre-payment charges/penalty and a free insurance cover is to be provided to the borrower for the entire amount of outstanding loan. The package is presently available till 31.12.2009.

Reservation for physically handicapped persons

*291. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the present percentages of reservation for physically handicapped persons in each of the category of posts in Central Government offices and Central Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) the total number of posts reserved for physically handicapped persons in Central Government offices and PSUs, separately, during each of the last three years and the number of them filled up; and

(c) the reasons for not filling up the remaining posts and the steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (c) Three per cent vacancies in all Groups of posts in case of direct recruitment and three per cent vacancies in Groups C and D posts in case of promotion are reserved for persons with disabilities of which one per cent each is reserved for persons suffering from (i) blindness or low vision, (ii) hearing impairment and (iii) locomotor disability or cerebral palsy in the posts identified for each disability.

As per information received from 68 Ministries/Departments, 1866 vacancies were earmarked reserved for persons with disabilities during 2005 of which 862 were filled up. In the year 2006, as per information received from 58 Ministries/Departments, 1615 vacancies were earmarked reserved of which 556 were filled up and in the year 2007, as per information received from 53 Ministries/Departments, 1135 vacancies were earmarked reserved of which 378 were filled up. Information in respect of public sector undertakings is not maintained centrally.

Some vacancies remain unfilled for reasons like non-availability of suitable candidates for the posts, time gap between the notification of vacancies and their filling up etc.

Assessment of RTI Act

*292. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI DARA SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any review has been made to assess the working of the Right to Information (RTI) Act;

(b) if so, the details and the outcome thereof;